

G. R. S. 58]

Previous references.

1924-25  
(Medical)

File No. 4024

Serial Nos. 18 & 26

Later references.

49-25-316

"-2-25-110

49-26-813 P. 2

*[Handwritten signature/initials]*

## GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos.

Two

Part B for

Jan 1925.

### SUBJECT

Notes of Inspection of the Lunatic  
Asylum Bangalore by the Commissioner

26) To the Series Super in Mysore  
" Chief Engineer " "  
" Comptroller of Fort  
no 2, 5785-7 & 21.1.1925  
Papers added on the above

*[Handwritten signature]*  
26/1/25

Serial  
No.

18

Letter No G.C. 86 dated the 22nd Sept 1924 from the Senior Surgeon in charge submitting a copy of his report of inspection of the Lunatic Asylum, Binsale, made on the 15th Sept 1924.

1) The more important portions of the report are marked in pen.

2) The Senior Surgeon wants orders of Govt on three points mentioned in his notes, viz.

(1) Issue of orders prohibiting the issue of certificates of manumission of persons brought for admission into the Asylum by the Superintendent's staff.

(2) The opening of an outpatient department.

(3) The training of nurses working in the Asylum.

Supd. for orders.

Ch. AM.

25/2/25

Copies of the Summary Report of the Asylum are sent up for reference, if any.

Copies of the S.O. showing the establishment of other institutions in the Asylum are sent up (S.O. No 1148 2/24).  
32-24-2 of 6-8-24.  
(This is a copy of the S.O. No. 1148 2/24).  
Note - Contn. sheet.

und File No.

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of 19 26

General and Revenue  
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3) Para 1 (b) Arrangement of outside trough system for removing night soil  
The Lamin Lingam may issue necessary instructions

12) Jaffer

4) Para 2 & 3. New building for the Dispensary  
This has been deferred for want of funds. The D.M. reports that his own buildings are available even for rent. Arrangement of lunatics under block system can only be thought of ~~after~~ when construction of a new building is completed.

Jaffer

Para 4 Admission of lunatics on certificates ~~proposed~~ granted by the Superintendent is against the provisions of the Lunacy Regulation as recommended by the Lamin Lingam.  
This has to be disallowed.

12) Jaffer

5) Para 5. Car. sheets. The procedure proposed ~~apart~~ may be ~~advised~~

13) Jaffer

6) Para 7. The opening of outpatient department in the Dispensary for Dr. Asif Ali. Cars may perhaps be sanctioned as recommended herein.

14) Jaffer

(5)

Serial  
No.

Estimates for the works in question have not yet been prepared, but under instructions from the Secy the Chief Engineer has been requested to have a plan & estimate for the tentative Asylum prepared. (The note furnishes information on points 1 & 2)

23) As regards point no 3  
Kind reference is invited to the statement appended to G.O. No. 2 1148-9/Secy 32-24-2 dated the 6th/10th August 1924, which gives details of the existing ~~existing~~ establishment of the Asylum <sup>including the staff</sup> and to G.O. No. 2. 7847-57/Secy 130-16-4 dated the 12th October 1918 which fixes the rates of scholarship to be given to minors & the period ~~to be~~ during which the same should be tenable.

24) There is no Nursing staff proper. There are only female ward attendants. The Sanitary Commission states that the staff may be hampered & kept ready to meet the demand of the New Hospital (Mental Diseases Hospital)

NOTE - Contn. Sheet

2094

18

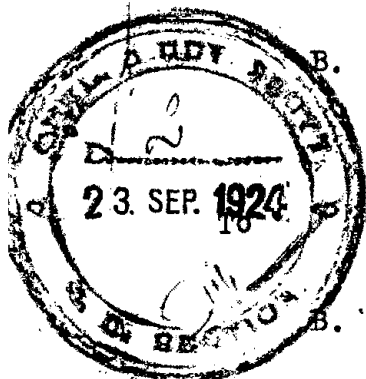
29

According to ~~order~~ dated Serial No. 29th Oct 1918, reference above, the value of each scholarship will be  $15 \times 12 \times 2$  or Rs 360 for an entire course of two years. The Senior Surgeon suggests that it is desirable to have one or two nurses trained for work in the Asylum and even if two such nurses are awarded scholarships as recommended, the cost would come up to ~~about~~ Rs 720 per annum or Rs 720 for the whole period when these nurses are trained and made available for work, the services of one or two female ward attendants & J. P. T. may be dispensed with, if considered necessary. After training, these nurses will have to be paid salary at <sup>about</sup> Rs 25-35 with ration & clothing allowances, which comes up to another  $12\frac{1}{2}$  Rupees per month. Subd for order with reference to 20. 15/11/20. 1284/20.

16157

MYSORE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.No. *4.C.96*  
Enc. *one*Office of the Senior Surgeon  
with the Government of Mysore,Bangalore, dated *22<sup>nd</sup>* September 1924.

From



B. MAHOMED USMON, ESQ., L.M. & S.,  
Senior Surgeon with the Government of  
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, BANGALORE.

B. NAGAPPA, ESQ., Bar-at-Law,  
Secretary to the Government of Mysore,  
Local and Legislative Departments, BANGALORE.

Sir,

In submitting herewith, for the information of Government,  
~~HE~~ a copy of my notes of inspection of the Lunatic Asylum, I have  
the honor to request you to be so good as to obtain the orders of  
Government in regard to the following matters :-

- i. Issue of Medical Certificates by the Medical Officer and his Staff: It frequently happens particularly when the relatives of an insane patient seeking admission for him or her are not aware of the preliminary legal procedure, that they bring the person straight to the Asylum without the necessary certificates. The Superintendent cannot under such circumstances admit the case and a practice has crept in (as a result of a natural impulse on the part of the Superintendent and his staff to smoothen the difficulties of the parties who are strangers in the town) whereby the legal omission is supplied by the grant of certificates by the Medical Officer and the Sub Assistant Surgeon attached to the Institution. As explained in para 4 of the notes, this procedure is apt to give rise to ~~an~~ erroneous impressions involving the good repute of a Government Institution. Further, I think it is hardly consistent with the duties of the Superintendent to himself grant a certificate when the expectation is that the patients or their relatives should have in their possession the necessary authority as provided by the rules before approaching the Superintendent with a request for admission. Under the circumstances, I would request the Government may be moved to be pleased to lay down a rule prohibiting the issue of such certificates by either the Superintendent or his Assistants.
- ii. The opening of an out-patient Department: The need for this is explained in para 7 of the notes. Sanction may kindly be accorded for the opening of an out-patient Department and for its location in the present Chamber of Commerce office.
- iii. The training of nurses: Two scholarships may be reserved annually for the special training of the nurses in the case of the insane so that when the proposed Mental Hospital is constructed and opened for work, the nursing

Sir,

William

SENIOR SURGEON, M.G.

(11)

Inspected the Lunatic Asylum this morning. The Medical Officer - Mr. Noronha, accompanied me in my rounds. Of the several defects noticed and pointed out in the course of the inspection, one was the lack of general cleanliness of the premises, including drains and the latrine, and particularly the rear portions of the compound, behind the wards. The Sergeant is directly responsible for the maintenance of cleanliness on the premises and with a staff of six sweepers and scavengers he ought to show better results. He should in future be required to see that the whole place is cleaned and tidied up before 8 A.M. every day. The latrines in the wards and the urinals should receive more attention. The latter should be flushed morning and evening with strong solution of phenyle. The present arrangement, of providing a pit in a corner of the room to serve as a latrine is most objectionable. Patients actually breathe the emanations of their own excreta during the whole night and the condition of atmosphere in the sleeping rooms when the wards are opened in the morning can be imagined.

(b) A double line trough filled with earth should be kept from outside to receive all night soil from the wards at nights. The troughs should be removed, cleansed and put back after being refilled with fresh earth every morning and evening. This would minimise the nuisance to a very great extent.

2. The general impression the building creates is one of extreme depression. The structure is very low-roofed.

Evidently it was an old chattram improvised in the early days as a Lunatic Asylum and has long outlasted the temporary use to which it apparently was originally intended. As the question of constructing and equipping a Mental Hospital is under the consideration of Government, it is unnecessary to touch upon the existing defects in detail. I would only say that the sooner a suitable building is provided the better it would be in the interest of the inmates and the efficiency of administration of the Institution. A sine quo non of the treatment in

*The question of constructing a new building for the purpose has been deferred for want of funds*

in a Mental Hospital is a cheerful and bright surrounding, with plenty of light and air. All else is secondary. The present environment - or the lack of it - is a great handicap to the Medical Officer, who has to be looking on helpless - unable to combat the dispiriting influences surrounding his patients.

3. The defective accommodation renders it impossible to group the inmates in the recognised, up-to-date manner. At present, they can only be herded. A separate block is provided for criminal lunatics but the other male lunatics are kept more or less together. An attempt is made to separate the European from the Indian patients. Nevertheless, intermingling occurs between the criminal and the civil sections, both Indian and European.

In European countries criminal lunatics have their own separate asylum; so also epileptics. As for other civil lunatics, what is known as the "BLOCK SYSTEM" effectively provides for the isolation of different types according as they are acute or chronic, or recovering cases &c. As it is, there is not an isolation ward even for infective diseases. In the case of serious diseases like cholera and small-pox, there is very real danger of the rapid spread of infection in consequence.

I noticed people suffering from itch being allowed to mix with others though they have nominally separate places assigned to them for sleeping &c. A separate block altogether will remove such and similar difficulties.

4. Regarding admission of patients, it so happens that sometimes patients are brought from mofussal stations without the prescribed certificates. In such cases, the Medical Officer will be in a dilemma whether or not to take in the patients. This difficult position is often-times tided over by the Medical Officer himself granting one certificate and the Sub Assistant

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Sub Assistant Surgeon another. and directing the party to the District Magistrate for the third certificate. Although technically there is nothing wrong in the Medical Officer or his Assistant granting certificates in this manner, and receiving the prescribed fees just like any other Medical men, the procedure is fraught with grave consequences to the prestige of the Administration of the Institution. It tends to give currency to the undesirable impression, in the minds of the public, that in the matter of admissions the authorities are swayed by monetary considerations. Clearly the situation demands that the Medical Officer and his staff should scrupulously refrain from granting certificates. A ruling to this effect is necessary and Government will be addressed.

5. I went through some of the case sheets. The present form gives more information than the older one according to which the information furnished was scanty and meagre. The Medical Officer should, in addition to the prescribed headings, note the exact condition of the patients at the time of discharge. Should the patient come back after a time, a record would be readily available which would be useful for comparative purposes and would enable the Medical Officer to note what developments have taken place during the interval. A summary of the line of treatment should also be noted for future reference.

6. The question of providing electric lights is an old one. I am not at all in favor of it as the roof is very low and any lunatic may break the bulb and endanger his life.

7. At the time of inspection, there were two patients waiting to consult the Specialist about their mental condition. Such cases, - or what may be called "NO CERTIFICATE" cases - should, under no circumstances, be allowed to mix with the regular inmates in the Asylum. I am strongly in favor of the establishment of an out-patient Department, where the Medical Officer can see such cases for an hour every day. A notice

Ch.

A notice board put up at the entrance notifying the fact of the existence of an out-patient Department will attract a considerable number of patients. It would supply a real need, judging from the numerous cases of an uncertifiable type that are brought to the Asylum for consultation and treatment. The present Chamber of Commerce Office, which was formerly a portion of the Vaccine Institute, is an ideal place to locate the out-patient ~~branch~~ branch. If found necessary, a bed or two may be assigned exclusively to out-patients who can be kept under observation under a self-dieting system.

8. For special paying patients the nature of accommodation available is not satisfactory. All that can be provided for such cases is some extra food, a cot and some bedding. There is no privacy and the same low-roofed cell must serve for them also. Special wards for paying patients are a paramount necessity. This question will receive due consideration when the design for the new Mental Hospital is submitted for the final acceptance of Government.

9. The "Septic Tank" is merely a catch-pit for sewage and is not at all a septic tank. I cannot understand how much nuisance is allowed to exist in the small garden attached to the Institution where female lunatics are usually required to work and in such close proximity to the wards.

*File spent up as reference to another Sanitary Commissioner dated the 8th August 1924 - also for being not available*  
There is no daily conservancy system, but quite recently, Government have, (in their Order No. L. 1211-4/Med. 30-24-2 dated the 8th August 1924) accepted the suggestion of the Sanitary Commissioner and requested the Commissioner of the City Municipal Council to arrange for the daily conservancy of the Institution. I shall see the Commissioner about this very shortly.

10. The want of trained nurses responsible for the nourishment, cleanliness, comfort and orderly behaviour of the patients is a great desideratum. At present there is, beyond a single Matron, no nursing staff at all provided for the Institution.

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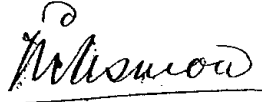
Mental nursing is a speciality in itself and nurses trained in the usual way will not be suited for the care of the insane. Steps will be taken to set apart one or two scholarships annually for the special training of nurses required for employment in the Asylum. The stipendiary pupil or pupils will be attached to the Asylum itself to receive the special training.

11. I am glad to note the rise in the percentage of cures since the present Superintendent was put in charge. The following are the figures for the five years ending 1923.

| Year. | Daily average strength. | Percentage of cured to total No. admitted. | Percentage of deaths to total No. admitted. |
|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 1919  | 181.60                  | 43.97                                      | 17.24                                       |
| 1920  | 190.41                  | 50.43                                      | 31.53                                       |
| 1921  | 187.00                  | 46.88                                      | 27.94                                       |
| 1922  | 196.53                  | 57.66                                      | 16.79                                       |
| 1923  | 165.35                  | 76.70                                      | 24.27                                       |

BANGALORE,

Dated 15th September 1924.

  
Senior Surgeon and  
Sanitary Commissioner.

SUBJECT.....

Diary No. of letter replied to... 2094

Section Med?

File No. - 16-24

Serial No. 26

General and Revenue Secretariat

(159)

, the

192

Date of issue... 21. 1. 1925

Signed by... Mr. D. K. S. Dyer

Proceedings of the Government of  
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Read— Notes of inspection  
dated the 15th Sept 1924  
of the Lunatic Asylum,  
Bangalore, by the Senior  
Surgeon in Mysore, received  
from the Senior Surgeon  
with his letter no G.C.  
96 dated the 22nd Sept  
1924.

Order No L 5185-7

At para 10 (b) of  
Order Thereon No.  
his notes of inspection  
the Senior Surgeon  
recommends that  
outside, though  
system may be  
introduced for  
removing night-soil

May this be

- i Printed ?
- ii treated as a standing order ?
- iii published in the Gazette,  
English Part ?
- iv translated ?
- v placed at the disposal of the press ?
- vi published in the Gazette,  
Kannada Part ?

Cholera (5)  
18/1

7/  
He is free with - - - - -  
necessary communication  
in the matter  
2. Government agree  
with the Senior Surgeon  
in thinking that it is  
~~undesirable~~ undesirable  
to permit the ad-  
mission of lunatics  
into the asylum  
certificates granted  
by the Superintendent  
and his assistants  
and accordingly direct  
that this practice  
be discontinued  
at once.

The procedure  
suggested by the  
Senior Surgeon at  
Para 5 of his notes  
regarding the work-  
up of the condition  
of the patient at the  
time of discharge <sup>Copied by</sup>  
in the case of <sup>Examined by</sup> ~~the~~  
4. Approved and  
may be accepted

List of enclosures.

GENERAL AND REVENUE  
SECRETARIAT.

(Continuation sheet draft form.)

(18)

4. The question of the construction of a new building for <sup>lunatic</sup> the Asylum on up to date lines as also that of opening an out-patient department <sup>for non-artificers work</sup> in connection with the Asylum are reserved for separate orders and the Senior Surgeon is requested to submit detailed proposals, including the question of cost in regard to the out-patient department.

5. Separate orders have already been issued in regard to the filling up

19)

of the septic tank  
and for arranging  
for daily housework  
in the Asylum.

Regarding the  
Grant of Scholarships  
annually for the  
training of Special  
Nurses for employment  
in the Asylum, Govt  
direct that the  
necessary provision  
for this purpose  
may be made in  
the next years  
budget for the  
Asylum.

70/11/12<sup>20</sup> Secy to Govt  
L & L Dept

To  
The Senior Surgeon in Charge  
The Chief Executive Officer  
The Asylum to Govt.  
Copy to Budget Section  
10/11/25